



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/649,150	08/27/2003	Hiroyuki Hasegawa	450100-04700	5058

7590 05/12/2008
William S. Frommer, Esq.
FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG LLP
745 Fifth Avenue
New York, NY 10151

EXAMINER

KHAN, USMAN A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2622

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
-----------	---------------

05/12/2008

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/649,150	Applicant(s) HASEGAWA ET AL.	
	Examiner USMAN KHAN	Art Unit 2622	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 February 2008.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3-7,9-13,17,19-21,23-25,29 and 30 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3-7,9-13,17,19-21,23-25,29 and 30 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 27 August 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>11/27/2006, 12/04/2006</u> | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

Applicant's election of Group 1 pertaining to claims 1 – 7, 9 – 13, 15, 17, 19 – 21, 23 – 25, 27, 29, and 30 in the reply filed on 02/22/2008 is acknowledged, applicant has canceled claims 2, 8, 14, 16, 18, 22, 26, 28, and 31, also claims 15 and 17 are canceled as requested by applicant. Because applicant did not distinctly and specifically point out the supposed errors in the restriction requirement, the election has been treated as an election without traverse (MPEP § 818.03(a)).

Priority

Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Information Disclosure Statement

The information disclosure statements (IDS) submitted on 11/27/2006 and 12/04/2006 have been considered by the examiner. The submissions are in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97.

Specification

The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

Claim Objection

Claims 3 – 6, 9 – 12, 19 – 20, 23 – 24, and 30 are objected to because of the following informalities: each of these dependent claims should start with “The”. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim 13 is objected to because of the following informalities: in line 5 “frm” should be changed to –from--. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim 30 is objected to because of the following informalities: in line 5 “camerl” should be changed to –camera--. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claim 4 recite the limitations “said last-mentioned image data”. The terms “last-mentioned image data” is not discussed earlier in the claim nor is it discussed in the independent claim that it depends from. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

Art Unit: 2622

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1, 3, 7, 9, 13, 17, 19 - 21, 23 - 25, 29 and 30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C.

103(a) as being unpatentable over Sato et al. (US patent No. 6,977,676) in view of Moghadam et al. (US patent No. 5,682,197).

Regarding **claim 1**, Sato et al. discloses a monitoring system for monitoring a predetermined location (figure 1 item 109, PC), comprising:

a first image display portion (figures 2, 12A - 12B, and 13 item 203) for storing in a storage unit image data (column 9 lines 58 - 67; image storage), derived from a first camera unit capable of taking images from different imaging directions (figures 1 and item 101 and figure 7 items 71 and 72; wide-angle cameras 71 and 72 in figure 7 when combined together are considered as one camera unit and they take images from different imaging directions), said first image display portion displaying either compressed images of said image data having been compressed from said first camera unit or compressed images of said image data read from said storage unit and then being compressed (column 5 lines 10 - 18; item 114 compressed and encoded signal; also column 6 lines 1 - 9, image signal 113 is compressed and encoded); and

a second image display portion (figures 2, 12A - 12B, and 13 item 202) for deriving moving image data of from a second camera unit capable of taking images from changeable directions and displaying said moving image data (figures 1 and item 110 and figure 7 item 73),

wherein a predetermined range is selected with a first indicating display and superimposed on said first image display portion (figures 2, 12A - 12B, and 13 item 204), and said moving image data is derived within said predetermined range (figures 2, 12A - 12B, and 13 item 202 in relation to item 204).

However, Sato et al. fails to disclose that there is position information is associated with each set of image data and displaying at a position based on position information associated with a set of said displayed image data, with the position information of each a respective set of image data being assembled therein. Moghadam et al., on the other hand discloses that there is position information is associated with each set of image data and displaying at a position based on position information associated with a set of said displayed image data, with the position information of each a respective set of image data being assembled therein.

More specifically, Moghadam et al. discloses that there is position information is associated with each set of image data (column 2 lines 9 – 35 and column 3 lines 52 *et seq.*; header includes panoramic mode indicator for indicating how to combine images) and displaying at a position based on position information associated with a set of said displayed image data (column 2 lines 9 – 35 and column 3 lines 52 *et seq.*; header includes panoramic mode indicator for indicating how to combine images), with the position information of each a respective set of image data being assembled therein (column 2 lines 9 – 35 and column 3 lines 52 *et seq.*; header includes panoramic mode indicator for indicating how to combine images).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the teachings of Moghadam et al. with the teachings of Sato et al. because in column 2 lines 21 – 29 Moghadam et al. teaches that the use of the invention will result in a simple camera capable of producing panoramic images and hence producing a panoramic or such image and displaying using the position information so that the image is arranged correctly; also the panoramic image is constructed together avoiding overlapping of images when the panoramic image is constructed.

Regarding **claim 3**, as mentioned above in the discussion of claim 1, Sato et al. in view of Moghadam et al. teaches all of the limitations of the parent claim. Additionally, Sato et al. teaches that said first and second image display portions make display on mutually different areas on display means (figures 2, 12A - 12B, and 13 items 202 and 203).

Regarding **claim 7**, Sato et al. discloses a monitoring method for monitoring a predetermined location (figure 1 item 109, PC monitoring remote cameras), comprising:

a step for storing in a storage unit image data (column 9 lines 58 - 67; image storage), derived from a first camera unit capable of taking images from different imaging directions (figures 1 and item 101 and figure 7 items 71 and 72; wide-angle cameras 71 and 72 in figure 7 when combined together are considered as one camera unit and they take images from different imaging directions); a step for displaying on a

first image display portion, either compressed images of said image data having been compressed from said first camera unit or compressed images of said image data read from said storage unit and then being compressed (column 5 lines 10 – 18; item 114 compressed and encoded signal; also column 6 lines 1 - 9, image signal 113 is compressed and encoded);

a step for deriving moving image data from a second camera unit capable of taking images, from changeable directions (figures 1 and item 110 and figure 7 item 73); and

a step for displaying said moving image data on a second image display portion (figures 2, 12A - 12B, and 13 item 202), wherein a predetermined range is selected with a first indicating display and superimposed on said first image display portion (figures 2, 12A - 12B, and 13 item 204), and said moving image data is derived within said predetermined range (figures 2, 12A - 12B, and 13 item 202 in relation to item 204).

However, Sato et al. fails to disclose position information associated with each set of image data and a step for displaying on the first display portion at a position based on position information associated with a set of said displayed image data, with the position information of a respective set of image data being assembled therein. Moghadam et al., on the other hand discloses position information associated with each set of image data and a step for displaying on the first display portion at a position based on position information associated with a set of said displayed image data, with the position information of a respective set of image data being assembled therein.

More specifically, Moghadam et al. discloses position information associated with each set of image data (column 2 lines 9 – 35 and column 3 lines 52 *et seq.*; header includes panoramic mode indicator for indicating how to combine images) and a step for displaying on the first display portion at a position based on position information associated with a set of said displayed image data (column 2 lines 9 – 35 and column 3 lines 52 *et seq.*; header includes panoramic mode indicator for indicating how to combine images), with the position information of a respective set of image data being assembled therein (column 2 lines 9 – 35 and column 3 lines 52 *et seq.*; header includes panoramic mode indicator for indicating how to combine images).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the teachings of Moghadam et al. with the teachings of Sato et al. because in column 2 lines 21 – 29 Moghadam et al. teaches that the use of the invention will result in a simple camera capable of producing panoramic images and hence producing a panoramic or such image and displaying using the position information so that the image is arranged correctly; also the panoramic image is constructed together avoiding overlapping of images when the panoramic image is constructed.

Regarding **claim 9**, as mentioned above in the discussion of claim 7, Sato et al. in view of Moghadam et al. teaches all of the limitations of the parent claim. Additionally, Sato et al. teaches that said first and second image display portions make

Art Unit: 2622

display on mutually different areas on display means (figures 2, 12A - 12B, and 13 items 202 and 203).

Regarding **claim 13**, Sato et al. discloses a program embodied in a computer-readable medium (column 3 lines 4 – 21, column 6 lines 29 – 58, and column 7 lines 4 *et seq.*) for causing a computer to execute a monitoring method for monitoring a predetermined location (figure 1 item 109, PC) by:

storing in a storage unit image data (column 9 lines 58 - 67; image storage), derived from a first camera unit capable of taking images from different imaging directions (figures 1 and item 101 and figure 7 items 71 and 72; wide-angle cameras 71 and 72 in figure 7 when combined together are considered as one camera unit and they take images from different imaging directions);

displaying on a first image display portion (figures 2, 12A - 12B, and 13 item 203), either compressed images of said taken-image data having been compressed from said first camera unit or compressed images of said image data read from said storage unit and then being compressed (column 5 lines 10 – 18; item 114 compressed and encoded signal; also column 6 lines 1 - 9, image signal 113 is compressed and encoded);

deriving moving image data from a second camera unit capable of taking images from changeable directions (figures 1 and item 110 and figure 7 item 73); and

displaying said moving image data on a second image display portion (figures 2, 12A - 12B, and 13 item 202),

wherein a predetermined range is selected with a first indicating display and superimposed on said first image display portion (figures 2, 12A - 12B, and 13 item 204), and said moving image data is derived within said predetermined range (figures 2, 12A - 12B, and 13 item 202 in relation to item 204).

However, Sato et al. fails to disclose position information associated with each set of image data and displaying on the first image display portion at a position based on position information associated with a set of said displayed image data, with the position information of a respective set of image data being assembled therein. Moghadam et al., on the other hand discloses position information associated with each set of image data and displaying on the first image display portion at a position based on position information associated with a set of said displayed image data, with the position information of a respective set of image data being assembled therein.

More specifically, Moghadam et al. discloses position information associated with each set of image data (column 2 lines 9 – 35 and column 3 lines 52 *et seq.*; header includes panoramic mode indicator for indicating how to combine images) and displaying on the first image display portion at a position based on position information associated with a set of said displayed image data (column 2 lines 9 – 35 and column 3 lines 52 *et seq.*; header includes panoramic mode indicator for indicating how to combine images), with the position information of a respective set of image data being assembled therein (column 2 lines 9 – 35 and column 3 lines 52 *et seq.*; header includes panoramic mode indicator for indicating how to combine images).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the teachings of Moghadam et al. with the teachings of Sato et al. because in column 2 lines 21 – 29 Moghadam et al. teaches that the use of the invention will result in a simple camera capable of producing panoramic images and hence producing a panoramic or such image and displaying using the position information so that the image is arranged correctly; also the panoramic image is constructed together avoiding overlapping of images when the panoramic image is constructed.

Regarding **claim 17**, Sato et al. discloses a monitoring system for monitoring a wide area (figure 1 item 109, PC), comprising:

a first image group (figures 2, 12A - 12B, and 13 item 203) for storing in a storage unit (column 9 lines 58 - 67; image storage) image data derived from different positions (figures 1 and item 101 and figure 7 items 71 and 72; wide-angle cameras 71 and 72 in figure 7 when combined together are considered as one camera unit and they take images from different imaging directions), and for displaying compressed images of said image data (figures 2, 12A - 12B, and 13 item 203 and column 5 lines 10 – 18; item 114 compressed and encoded signal; also column 6 lines 1 - 9, image signal 113 is compressed and encoded);

a second image group (figures 2, 12A - 12B, and 13 item 202) which, upon a sighting line for identifying a predetermined range superimposed on said first image group and selected with said sighting line (figures 2, 12A - 12B, and 13 item 203 with

line 204), derives image data of at the associated position information of said selected predetermined range (figures 2, 12A - 12B, and 13 item 202 in relation to item 204), and displays said derived image data at the associated position (figures 2, 12A - 12B, and 13 item 202); and

a display unit for displaying said first and said second image groups on mutually different regions (figures 2, 12A - 12B, and 13 items 202 and 203).

However, Sato et al. fails to disclose position information associated with each set of image data and for displaying at a position based on corresponding position information associated with a set of said displayed image data, with the position information of a respective set of image data being assembled therein. Moghadam et al., on the other hand discloses position information associated with each set of image data and for displaying at a position based on corresponding position information associated with a set of said displayed image data, with the position information of a respective set of image data being assembled therein.

More specifically, Moghadam et al. discloses position information associated with each set of image data (column 2 lines 9 – 35 and column 3 lines 52 *et seq.*; header includes panoramic mode indicator for indicating how to combine images) and for displaying at a position based on corresponding position information associated with a set of said displayed image data (column 2 lines 9 – 35 and column 3 lines 52 *et seq.*; header includes panoramic mode indicator for indicating how to combine images), with the position information of a respective set of image data being assembled therein

(column 2 lines 9 – 35 and column 3 lines 52 *et seq.*; header includes panoramic mode indicator for indicating how to combine images).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the teachings of Moghadam et al. with the teachings of Sato et al. because in column 2 lines 21 – 29 Moghadam et al. teaches that the use of the invention will result in a simple camera capable of producing panoramic images and hence producing a panoramic or such image and displaying using the position information so that the image is arranged correctly; also the panoramic image is constructed together avoiding overlapping of images when the panoramic image is constructed.

Regarding **claim 19**, as mentioned above in the discussion of claim 17, Sato et al. in view of Moghadam et al. teaches all of the limitations of the parent claim. Additionally, Sato et al. teaches while said desired range is being selected with said sighting line, and during the time from selection of said desired range with said sighting line until starting of image-taking of said desired range, image data within said desired range selected from said first image group with said sighting line is read out from said storage unit and displayed at a corresponding position on said second image group (figures 2, 12A - 12B, and 13 items 202 and 203 with line box 204).

Regarding **claim 20**, as mentioned above in the discussion of claim 17, Sato et al. in view of Moghadam et al. teaches all of the limitations of the parent claim.

Additionally, Sato et al. teaches upon a desired point on said first image group being selected, said sighting line is superimposed on said first image group according to said selected desired point (column 7 lines 21 – 33 and figures 2, 12A - 12B, and 13 items 202 and 203 with line box 204; mouse used to point and select section).

Regarding **claim 21**, Sato et al. discloses a monitoring method for monitoring a wide area (figure 1 item 109, PC), comprising:

a step for storing in a storage unit (column 9 lines 58 - 67; image storage) image data derived from different positions (figures 1 and item 101 and figure 7 items 71 and 72; wide-angle cameras 71 and 72 in figure 7 when combined together are considered as one camera unit and they take images from different imaging directions); a step for displaying in a first image group compressed images of said image data (column 5 lines 10 – 18; item 114 compressed and encoded signal; also column 6 lines 1 - 9, image signal 113 is compressed and encoded);

a step for deriving image data of a desired range within a predetermined range superimposed on said first image group and selected with a sighting line (figures 2, 12A - 12B, and 13 item 203 with line 204);

a step for displaying in a second image group said derived image data at the associated position (figures 2, 12A - 12B, and 13 item 202); and

a step for displaying said first and said second image groups on mutually different regions of a display unit (figures 2, 12A - 12B, and 13 items 202 and 203).

However, Sato et al. fails to disclose position information associated with each set of image data step for displaying in a first image group at a position based on position information associated with a set of said displayed image data, with the position information of a respective set of image data being assembled therein. Moghadam et al., on the other hand discloses position information associated with each set of image data step for displaying in a first image group at a position based on position information associated with a set of said displayed image data, with the position information of a respective set of image data being assembled therein.

More specifically, Moghadam et al. discloses position information associated with each set of image data step for displaying in a first image group (column 2 lines 9 – 35 and column 3 lines 52 *et seq.*; header includes panoramic mode indicator for indicating how to combine images) at a position based on position information associated with a set of said displayed image data (column 2 lines 9 – 35 and column 3 lines 52 *et seq.*; header includes panoramic mode indicator for indicating how to combine images), with the position information of a respective set of image data being assembled therein (column 2 lines 9 – 35 and column 3 lines 52 *et seq.*; header includes panoramic mode indicator for indicating how to combine images).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the teachings of Moghadam et al. with the teachings of Sato et al. because in column 2 lines 21 – 29 Moghadam et al. teaches that the use of the invention will result in a simple camera capable of producing panoramic images and hence producing a panoramic or such image and displaying

using the position information so that the image is arranged correctly; also the panoramic image is constructed together avoiding overlapping of images when the panoramic image is constructed.

Regarding **claim 23**, as mentioned above in the discussion of claim 21, Sato et al. in view of Moghadam et al. teaches all of the limitations of the parent claim. Additionally, Sato et al. teaches while said desired range is being selected with said sighting line, and during the time from selection of said desired range with said sighting line until starting of image-taking of said desired range, image data from said first image group within said desired range is read out from said storage unit and displayed at a corresponding position on said second image group (figures 2, 12A - 12B, and 13 items 202 and 203 with line box 204).

Regarding **claim 24**, as mentioned above in the discussion of claim 21, Sato et al. in view of Moghadam et al. teaches all of the limitations of the parent claim. Additionally, Sato et al. teaches upon selecting a desired point on said first image group, said sighting line is superimposed on said first image group according to said selected desired point (column 7 lines 21 – 33 and figures 2, 12A - 12B, and 13 items 202 and 203 with line box 204; mouse used to point and select section).

Regarding **claim 25**, Sato et al. discloses a program embodied in a computer-readable medium (column 3 lines 4 – 21, column 6 lines 29 – 58, and column 7 lines 4

et seq.) for causing a computer to execute a monitoring method for monitoring a wide area (figure 1 item 109, PC) by:

storing in a storage unit (column 9 lines 58 - 67; image storage) image data derived from different positions (figures 1 and item 101 and figure 7 items 71 and 72; wide-angle cameras 71 and 72 in figure 7 when combined together are considered as one camera unit and they take images from different imaging directions); displaying in a first image group (figures 2, 12A - 12B, and 13 item 203) compressed images of said image data (column 5 lines 10 - 18; item 114 compressed and encoded signal; also column 6 lines 1 - 9, image signal 113 is compressed and encoded);

deriving image data of a desired range within a predetermined range superimposed on said first image group and selected with a sighting line (figures 2, 12A - 12B, and 13 item 203 with line 204);

displaying in a second image group said derived image data at the associated position (figures 2, 12A - 12B, and 13 item 202); and

displaying said first and said second image groups on mutually different regions of a display unit (figures 2, 12A - 12B, and 13 items 202 and 203).

However, Sato et al. fails to disclose position information associated with each set of image data and displaying at a position based on position information associated with a set of said displayed image data, with the position information of a respective set of image data being assembled therein. Moghadam et al., on the other hand discloses position information associated with each set of image data and displaying at a position

based on position information associated with a set of said displayed image data, with the position information of a respective set of image data being assembled therein.

More specifically, Moghadam et al. discloses position information associated with each set of image data (column 2 lines 9 – 35 and column 3 lines 52 *et seq.*; header includes panoramic mode indicator for indicating how to combine images) and displaying at a position based on position information associated with a set of said displayed image data (column 2 lines 9 – 35 and column 3 lines 52 *et seq.*; header includes panoramic mode indicator for indicating how to combine images), with the position information of a respective set of image data being assembled therein (column 2 lines 9 – 35 and column 3 lines 52 *et seq.*; header includes panoramic mode indicator for indicating how to combine images).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the teachings of Moghadam et al. with the teachings of Sato et al. because in column 2 lines 21 – 29 Moghadam et al. teaches that the use of the invention will result in a simple camera capable of producing panoramic images and hence producing a panoramic or such image and displaying using the position information so that the image is arranged correctly; also the panoramic image is constructed together avoiding overlapping of images when the panoramic image is constructed.

Regarding **claim 29**, Sato et al. discloses a monitoring system for monitoring predetermined locations (figure 1 item 109, PC), comprising:

storage means for storing image data (column 9 lines 58 - 67; image storage), taken of different positions with a first camera unit (figures 1 and item 101 and figure 7 items 71 and 72; wide-angle cameras 71 and 72 in figure 7 when combined together are considered as one camera unit and they take images from different imaging directions);

a display unit (figures 2, 12A - 12B, and 13 item 203) for displaying either compressed images of said taken image data having been compressed or compressed images of said image data stored in said storage unit having been compressed (column 5 lines 10 - 18; item 114 compressed and encoded signal; also column 6 lines 1 - 9, image signal 113 is compressed and encoded); and

indicating display means for indicating a predetermined range of an entire image on said display (figures 2, 12A - 12B, and 13 item 204);

wherein a second camera unit (figures 1 and item 110 and figure 7 item 73) is shifted to said position based on the position information of image data corresponding to the range in the indicating display (figures 2, 12A - 12B, and 13 item 202), and consecutively taking images of the location corresponding to the position indicated with said second camera unit (figures 2, 12A - 12B, and 13 item 202).

However, Sato et al. fails to disclose position information attached to each set of image data and displaying at a predetermined position corresponding to each image set of image data, thereby displaying an entire image also the second camera unit is shifted to said position based on the position information. Moghadam et al., on the other hand discloses position information attached to each set of image data and displaying at a predetermined position corresponding to each image set of image data, thereby

displaying an entire image also when Moghadam et al. is combined with the teachings of Sato et al. the second camera unit of Sato et al. is shifted to said position based on the position information.

More specifically, Moghadam et al. discloses position information associated with each set of image data (column 2 lines 9 – 35 and column 3 lines 52 *et seq.*; header includes panoramic mode indicator for indicating how to combine images) and displaying at a predetermined position corresponding to each image set of image data (column 2 lines 9 – 35 and column 3 lines 52 *et seq.*; header includes panoramic mode indicator for indicating how to combine images), thereby displaying an entire image (column 2 lines 9 – 35 and column 3 lines 52 *et seq.*; header includes panoramic mode indicator for indicating how to combine images). Also when Moghadam et al. is combined with the teachings of Sato et al. the second camera unit [of Sato et al.] will be shifted to said position based on the position information (column 2 lines 9 – 35 and column 3 lines 52 *et seq.*; header includes panoramic mode indicator for indicating how to combine images).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the teachings of Moghadam et al. with the teachings of Sato et al. because in column 2 lines 21 – 29 Moghadam et al. teaches that the use of the invention will result in a simple camera capable of producing panoramic images and hence producing a panoramic or such image and displaying using the position information so that the image is arranged correctly; also the

panoramic image is constructed together avoiding overlapping of images when the panoramic image is constructed.

Regarding **claim 30**, as mentioned above in the discussion of claim 29, Sato et al. in view of Moghadam et al. teaches all of the limitations of the parent claim. Additionally, Sato et al. teaches said first camera unit shifts the direction of taking images in order to create said entire image (figures 1 and item 101 and figure 7 items 71 and 72; wide-angle cameras 71 and 72 in figure 7 when combined together are considered as one camera unit and they take images from different imaging directions), while said second camera is shifted to said position based on the position information corresponding to the range in said indicating display (figures 2, 12A - 12B, and 13 item 202 displays the second camera figures 1 and item 110 and figure 7 item 73 changing directions to capture the range selected in section 204 of figures 2, 12A - 12B, and 13).

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 4 - 6 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph, set forth in this Office action and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

In the above mentioned claims 5 – 6 are objected to as being dependent upon objected on claim 4 which is allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Claims 10 - 12 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim,

but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

In the above mentioned claims 11 - 12 are objected to as being dependent upon objected on claim 10 which is allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Noro et al. (US patent No. 6,646,677) teaches saving camera angles in memory.

Lassiter (US patent No. 6,624,846) teaches plural display portions one with wide angle and the user selects a range and the second display portion is zoomed in on that display portion.

Furlan et al. (US patent No. 6,466,254) teaches taking panoramic image and combining different sections together.

Seeley et al. (US patent No. 6,091,771) teaches multiple portion display system.

Yamagishi et al. (US patent No. 7,136,096) teaches multiple portion display system with panoramic view.

Tsuruta (US patent No. 5,754,230) teaches multiple portion display system with multiple cameras.

Grage et al. (US patent No. 5,005,083) teaches multiple portion display system with multiple cameras.

Kawasaki et al. (US patent No. 7,254,482) teaches saving the viewing angle of the camera in metadata.

Urisaka et al. (US patent No. 6,529,234) teaches saving camera positions.

Kuno (US patent No. 7,161,623) teaches saving camera angles in metadata and display having multiple display portions.

Iijima et al. (US patent No. 5,973,726) teaches combining multiple images to make panoramic image.

KATO et al. (US PgPub 2001/0040636) teaches multiple portion display system.

Elberbaum (US PgPub 2002/0152557) teaches multiple portion display system with multiple cameras.

Wada et al. (US PgPub 2002/0191076) teaches tilting wide angle camera and saving the angle of the tilt.

Takagi et al. (US PgPub 2003/0085997) teaches saving camera panning and tilting angles in metadata of file.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Usman Khan whose telephone number is (571) 270-1131. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Thru 6:45-4:15; Fri 6:45-3:15 or Alt. Fri off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Ometz can be reached on (571) 272-7593. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Usman Khan/
Examiner, Art Unit 2622
Usman Khan
05/07/2008
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2622

/Tuan V Ho/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2622